
TROOP 629 NEWS **December 2017**

This newsletter is intended for Troop 629 Scouts and their families.

Up and Coming:

- ❖ Board of Review 12/11
- ❖ Merit Badge Help Night 12/12
- ❖ Lock-in, 12/15-12/16
- ❖ End of Year Holiday Party and Gift Exchange, 12/18

All newsletters, pictures and up-to-date information are at www.troop629.org
IF YOU ARE NOT RECEIVING THE NEWLETTER OR OTHER TROOP COMMUNICATIONS,
PLEASE EMAIL: Kathryn Cline, Troop 629 Communications Chair at k.cline@earthlink.net



Backpacking through Georgia's mountains in November, part of the Appalachian Trail... always an adventure!

For more pics including forest and river views, visit the Troop website and click "Pictures"

www.troop629.org



Scoutmaster Minute by Fran Gillis

End of year and we get to congratulate another Scout for obtaining his Eagle Scout. Louis Deavers is our newest Eagle passing his District Board of Review on Nov 30th. He will have his official ceremony later on, but let him know when you see him that we are proud he has joined Troop 629's flock.

CHANGE, CHANGE, CHANGE... always check the web site!

The church has asked us to change the dates of our Lock-in, so we will be conducting it Dec. 15th-16th (moved from Dec. 8th-9th) with details the same **BUT** at North Campus in our normal meeting area. Scouts need the cables, connections, controllers and system box for any video games they want to play. If you still need to sign up, bring permission slip by Dec. 11th Troop Meeting. If you need to cancel because of the date change, just ask us for the funds to be returned. Remember that flyers for all events are posted on the Troop web site under the "Events" tab and copies are on the table in the back of the room at our weekly meetings.

Looks like we will be cancelling West Virginia ski trip, as we had only one paid Scout. The New Hampshire ski trip can still happen in January if we have some 14 year-old or over Scouts sign up (soon!).

Our annual Troop Tree Recycle Service Project is set for Jan. 1st and all Scouts are welcome to participate. We meet in the SOUTH CAMPUS parking lot at 8AM and dress in RED Troop t-shirt and other items based on weather... gloves are always helpful.

Holiday Party meeting is Dec 18th, our end-of-year meeting, which is a "White Elephant" gift exchange. Scouts participate when they bring a *used* item costing *less than* \$20 to regift/exchange with other Scouts.

A caving trip is set up for the weekend of Jan. 6th-7th and permission is required by the Dec. 18th Troop Meeting, so do not miss out.

More from the Scoutmaster:

- ❖ PLEASE help us in bringing the Scouts the program they asked for by signing up early for scheduled trips. We need to know who wants to participate so we lock in the best prices and get the logistics arranged. Ski trips (just around the corner!) need extra time to arrange so those are coming up and NOW is the time to sign up to avoid cancellations. <http://www.troop629.org/events/index.htm>
- ❖ Keep a close eye on our online calendar on the Troop web site (www.troop629.org) which is constantly kept up to date to help make your plans and especially to help make those early decisions to participate. <http://www.troop629.org/calendar/index.htm>

Scout Handshake

SCOUT – TENDERFOOT – SECOND CLASS – FIRST CLASS – STAR – LIFE – EAGLE



Scout – Davis Rowe

Tenderfoot – none

First Class – none

Second Class – none

Star – none

Life – none

Eagle – Louis Deavers, 11/30/2017

***Congratulations to each of you
On achieving your next rank!***



News you can use...

****** Volunteers needed to donate snacks/treats for our end of year Holiday Party on Monday, December 18th. Please contact Mrs. Bierbaum at marybeth@bierbaum.com to volunteer. Thank you to those who have already signed up. An email reminder will be sent prior to the party.

****** The Troop 629 Scholarship Program applies to dues, activities and High Adventure trips. No boy should miss an opportunity to participate in Scouting due to finances. Please see Mr. Gillis or Mrs. Bierbaum for confidential discussion.

****** We generally ask for activity sign-up forms 2 weeks in advance, so *please* plan ahead for your Scouting fun! We must be sure we have the resources we need. Some trips (i.e. skiing, High Adventure) require more advanced planning, so please look ahead and see what you would like to do.

Special Feature:

Annual Christmas Tree Recycling Service Project!

Join us Monday, January 1st lot for this annual service project. We will meet at 8am in the South Campus parking lot to determine work teams and head out. Dress for the weather with your Class B red t-shirt. Gloves are always helpful. Plenty of snacks and hot chocolate will be provided!

Please contact Mrs. Bierbaum at marybeth@bierbaum.com with questions or to sign up to donate snacks. Thanks in advance to those who have already volunteered! An email reminder will be sent the week prior.

If you cannot participate the entire day, please see Mr. Gillis to make arrangements to help when and where you can. This is always a fun project for Scouts and adults alike!

There is a link to sign up and make donations for tree pick-up on the home page of the Troop web site. Tell your friends and neighbors about this great service project we do to help them clean up after the holidays and recycle their Christmas Trees.



Volunteers <http://www.troop629.org/about/committee.htm>

We have several volunteers “aging out” with their Scouts or transitioning roles and need help with the following positions: Newsletter/Communications, Medical Records, Friends of Scouting, Scouting for Food, Health/Safety, Scout Sunday, District News. If you would like to get involved, we will find just the right place for you! Descriptions are online. Please contact Mary Beth Bierbaum at MaryBeth@bierbaum.com.

Did you know? <http://www.troop629.org/calendar/index.htm>

The calendar has been posted for the rest of the year. Take a look ahead to see which adventures you don't want to miss! There's something out there for everyone! Have an idea? Let your PLC know!

Advancement <http://www.troop629.org/advancement/index.htm>

By now, everyone should be working from the updated handbook. Please see Mrs. Narayana if you do not have one or if you have any questions about how this affects you and your rank.

RSVP for ACTIVITIES <http://www.troop629.org/events/index.htm>

We ask that you please submit your RSVP form for Troop activities 2 Mondays prior to the event. That gives us about 10 days to finalize the details with a solid number of participants. We would like to give everyone as much notice as possible when planning and arranging for adult volunteers, drivers, and paying deposits.

High Adventure <http://www.troop629.org/Adventure/index.htm>

Did you know that we start planning these over a year in advance? That's what it takes to secure a spot for our Troop to participate in Sea Base, Northern Tier, Philmont, Summit or the new Cavalcade. Adults are needed for High Adventure too, and special training is required and well worth the fun!

Life to Eagle <http://www.troop629.org/advancement/lifetoeagle.htm>

Check the Troop web site to see where you are in the process. Mrs. Narayana has updated everyone's records. Please be sure to follow the directions for the Eagle advancement process; it will help you be sure to get everything done on time.



Den Chiefs

Looking for a leadership position? A great way to serve and have some fun in the process is to be a Den Chief for a local Cub Scout Den. See Mr. Calvert, or email him at stouf29@yahoo.com



Merit Badge Counselors

Please remember to update your YPT training. We want to be sure we observe all Youth Protection rules at all times with all of our Adult Leaders and Scouts. See Mr. Gillis with any questions.

Looking ahead...

**FULL Calendar on the troop web site www.troop629.org



DECEMBER

Friday & Saturday, December 1-2 MP Service Day, OA Banquet
Sunday, December 3 NYLT Staff Interviews
Monday, December 4 Troop Meeting, North Campus
Saturday, December 9 CPR Class, patrol service projects
Sunday, December 10 Troop Committee Meeting, patrol service projects
Monday, December 11 Board of Review, Troop Meeting North Campus
Tuesday, December 12 6PM Merit Badge Help Night, South Campus Front Steps
Thursday, December 14 PLC North Campus S201 (7pm-8pm)
Friday-Saturday, December 15-16 Lock-in, North Campus ** Date Change**
Sunday, December 17 Session 5 setup (NYLT), patrol service projects
Monday, December 18 Troop Holiday Meeting and White Elephant Gift Exchange
Thursday, December 21 District RT
Friday, December 22-January 8, 2018 School Out, NYLT course 9
Wednesday-Sunday, 12/27-12/31 Winter Camp Merit Badge

JANUARY 2018

Monday, January 1, 2018 NO Meeting, Tree Recycle Project-8am South Campus
Tuesday-Friday, January 2-5, 2018 SKI West Virginia-cancelled
Saturday-Sunday, January 6-7, 2018 Tennessee Aquarium & Caving trip
Sunday, January 7, 2018 ECOH Xander Davis@Autrey Mill, Troop Committee Meeting
Monday, January 8, 2018 Troop Meeting North Campus
Tuesday, January 9, 2018 6PM Merit Badge Help Night, South Campus Front Steps
Thursday, January 11, 2018 PLC, South Campus S201 (7-8)
Friday-Monday, January 12-15, 2018 Venture SKI trip to New Hampshire
Monday, January 15, 2018 Board of Review, NO Meeting
Thursday, January 18, 2018 District RoundTable
Monday, January 22, 2018 Troop Meeting, North Campus
Saturday, January 27, 2018 District Banquet
Saturday-Sunday, January 27-28, 2018 Pine Mountain Backpacking trip
Monday, January 29, 2018 Troop Court of Honor, Troop Meeting
Wednesday, January 31, 2018 Camp Card Kick-off

FEBRUARY 2018

Saturday, February 3, 2018 Camp Card Kick-off, NYLT Orientation
Monday, February 5, 2018 Troop Meeting NC
Thursday, February 8, 2018 PLC NC S201 (7-8)
Saturday, February 10, 2018 Scout Sabbath
Sunday, February 11, 2018 Scout Sunday, Scouting for Food, Troop Committee Meeting
Monday, February 12, 2018 Board of Review, Troop Meeting NC
Tuesday, February 13, 2018 6PM MB Help Night South Front Steps
Thursday, February 15, 2018 District RT
Friday-Monday, February 16-19, 2018 FL Beach camp & USS AL
Saturday, February 24, 2018 NYLT Staff Dev 1
Monday, February 26, 2018 OA Elections, Troop Meeting NC